

REMARKS

Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 16 are currently pending in the present application, with Claim 16 being canceled, and claims 3, 10, and 13 being amended. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims, as amended and as added, are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected Claims 3, 4, 7, 10, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,942,708) in view of Roland VS-1680 Owner's Manual ("Roland") in further view of Iizuka (U.S. Patent No. 4,898,059).

The Examiner has further indicated Claim 16 as being allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim.

Applicants have amended Claims 3, 10, and 13 to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 16, and respectfully submit that the amended claims are in condition for allowance. Claims 4 and 7 depend from Claim 3 and are hence submitted as in condition for allowance for the same reason.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and an early Notice of Allowability is solicited.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Deputy to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 393032027800.

Respectfully submitted,

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